

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing proposed amendments as well as the following remarks is respectfully requested.

In the present application, claims 1-7 and 9-25 have been amended. No new subject matter has been introduced via the noted changes.

In the Office Action dated April 6, 2007, the Examiner **(1)** rejected claims 1-11, 13, 15-18, 20-21, and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,546,285 to Owen (hereinafter "the '285 reference"); and **(2)** found allowable subject matter relative to claims 12, 14, 19, and 22.

In response to the determinations of the Examiner, Applicant respectfully expresses appreciation for the finding of allowable subject matter relative to claims 12, 14, 19 and 22 is respectfully expressed.

Concerning the pending claims, and more particularly the rejection of claims 1-11, 13, 15-18, 20-21, and 23-24, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are likewise patentable as each is directed to allowable subject matter. That is, Applicant respectfully submits that, contrary to that which has been suggested via the Action, the '285 reference at least fails to disclose and/or suggest controllably releasing or evaporating a substance. The '285 reference only teaches "release [of an] agent in response to [a] defibrillation energy [that is] applied to [an] electrode" (see, col.14, lns.50-52). It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing disclosure is at least insufficient, absent the benefit of hindsight, to teach or suggest to one skilled in the art controllably releasing or evaporating a substance associated with a flexible material. Accordingly, as the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest that which is described via the pending claims, reconsideration and withdrawal of the stated 103(a) rejection are respectfully requested.

In sum, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are patentable, and moreover that

the pending application is accordingly in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicant respectfully and earnestly solicits a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Barnes", written in a cursive style.

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